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Miller, Kelly to Prof. T.M. Gregory

Thomas Montgomery Gregory

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HOWARD UNIVERSITY

STEPHEN M. NEWMAN, A. M., D. D., *President*

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

KELLY MILLER, A. M., *Dean*

Washington, D. C.

PROF. T. M. GREGORY,
R.O.T.C. Co. 2,
Fort Des Moines, Iowa.

My dear Sir:

In connection with your letter to Prof. Miller which I have just read I am proposing a matter which I trust you will give careful consideration. I propose to stage the biggest event in the history of the race since the speech of Booker T. Washington at Atlanta.

It must be apparent to you that since the death of Mr. Washington the race has suffered because of lack of leadership centered in some one person. It is evident now that such leadership must be civilian but related closely to the military development of the race.

It is evident, further, that such leadership must be to the intellectual apex of the racial pyramid exactly what the highest commissioned officer is to the rank and file and other commissioned men. It must not only be recognized as the acme of intellectual adjustment of Negro to white standards, but as the happy medium of adjustment between the standards of the old Negro and the young Negro....standards at present at wide variance.

Prof. Miller fits in, it seems, precisely. He only needed the setting....which you propose to afford him. My proposition is to press agent him. That is what was done at Atlanta for Mr. Washington....and after Atlanta, everywhere else.